Vocabulary for Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *The Scarlet Letter* – Chapter One

As with all things we read this year, there are four types of vocabulary we’ll encounter:

1. Reading words – These are the ones you’ll probably only find in the piece we’re currently reading. I’ll define these for you.
2. Living vocabulary – These are words that you may not know but are used by a lot of people in a lot ways. They’ll be on the sheet but left blank for you to look up.
3. English class vocabulary – These words don’t come up a lot, but you’ll need them for English class. These may not even be in the book, but you ought to be able to apply them to what we’re reading. These may or may not be on the list, but will almost definitely come up during class discussions.
4. Independent words – There may be words that you come across and need to define, but I didn’t include on the list. As you read more closely and become more curious, I’m going to bet that you’ll find more words.
5. In case you’re curious, I think [www.onelook.com](http://www.onelook.com) is the best online dictionary.

* Throng
* Edifice – Imposing building
* Utopia -
* Invariably
* Virgin
* Sepulchres – Burial vault
* Beetlebrowed - Unfriendly
* Ponderous – Having great mass; huge
* Congenial –
* Saint -
* Inauspicious - Warning of bad things to come; not in one’s best interest
* Frailty

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Imagery, symbolism, metaphor, historical context, historical fiction, juxtaposition, romantic, narrator